



# PRESS RELEASE

## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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### Idaho Dry Bean Production Increases from Last Year

Idaho dry bean production is forecast to be 1.86 million cwt, up 14 percent from last year's 1.64 million cwt, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Yields are expected to average 1,900 pounds per acre, a decrease of 200 pounds per acre from 2004, and 50 pounds below the August forecast. Harvested acreage is expected to total 98,000 acres, up 26 percent from last year's 78,000 acres harvested. Dry Bean estimates include garbanzo beans, which are grown primarily in North Idaho. Production of alfalfa hay is estimated at 4.60 million tons, down 3 percent from 2004. Harvested acreage at 1.18 million acres, is unchanged from last year. Other hay production is estimated at 660,000 tons from 300,000 harvested acres, up from the 630,000 tons from 300,000 acres in 2004. Idaho sugarbeet production for 2005 is forecast to be 4.56 million tons, down 17 percent from the 5.51 million tons a year ago. Yield of 27.3 tons per acre is down from last year's 28.7 tons per acre. Harvested area of 167,000 acres is down from the 192,000 acres harvested in 2004.

U.S. dry edible bean production is forecast at 26.1 million cwt for 2005, up 1 percent from the August forecast and 47 percent above last year. Harvested acreage is forecast at 1.52 million acres, 1 percent below the August forecast but up 25 percent from last year. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,715 pounds per acre, an increase of 28 pounds from the August forecast and 255 pounds above last year. Production of alfalfa hay is forecast at 75.9 million tons, up 3 percent from the August forecast and up 1 percent from last year. Other hay production is forecast at 76.9 million tons, up 1 percent from August but down 7 percent from 2004. U.S. sugarbeet production is forecast at 26.7 million tons, 2 percent above the September forecast but 11 percent below last year's production. Harvested area is expected to total 1.24 million acres, virtually the same as last month but 5 percent below last year.

For More Information Call: (208) 334-1507.

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